

The EA's were prepared by NOAA, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. sections 4321 *et seq.*, to assess the environmental impacts associated with the approval of the coastal nonpoint pollution control programs submitted to NOAA and EPA by Alaska, South Carolina and Virginia.

NOAA and EPA have proposed to approve, with conditions, the coastal nonpoint pollution control programs submitted by Alaska, South Carolina and Virginia. The requirements of 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508 (Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations to implement the National Environmental Policy Act) apply to the preparation of the Environmental Assessments. Specifically, 40 CFR section 1506.6 requires agencies to provide public notice of the availability of environmental documents. This notice is part of NOAA's action to comply with this requirement.

Copies of the Proposed Findings Documents, Environmental Assessments, and Findings of No Significant Impact may be obtained upon request from: Joseph P. Flanagan, Coastal Programs Division (N/ORM3), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS, NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910, tel. (301) 713-3121, x201.

DATES: Individuals or organizations wishing to submit comments on the proposed Findings or Environmental Assessments should do so by October 6, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be made to: Joseph A. Uravitch, Coastal Programs Division (N/ORM3), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS, NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910, tel. (301) 713-3155, x195. (Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog 11.419 Coastal Zone Management Program Administration).

Dated: August 29, 1997.

Evelyn J. Fields,

Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Robert H. Wayland, III,

Director, Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds, Environmental Protection Agency.

[FR Doc. 97-23519 Filed 9-4-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program; Proposed Findings Document, Environmental Assessment, and Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of Extension of Comment Period for Proposed Findings Document, Environmental Assessment, and Finding of No Significant Impact on Approval of the Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program for Louisiana.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the extension of the comment period on the Proposed Findings Document, Environmental Assessment (EA), and Finding of No Significant Impact on the Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program (coastal nonpoint program) submitted to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for approval by the State of Louisiana. A Notice of Availability was published at 62 FR 38520 on July 18, 1997. Comments were due by August 18, 1997. The Findings document was prepared by NOAA and EPA to provide the rationale for the agencies' decision to approve the Louisiana coastal nonpoint program. The EA was prepared by NOAA, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. sections 4321 *et seq.*, to assess the environmental impacts associated with the approval of the Louisiana coastal nonpoint program.

NOAA and EPA have proposed to approve, with conditions, the coastal nonpoint pollution control program submitted by Louisiana. The requirements of 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508 (Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations to implement the National Environmental Policy Act) apply to the preparation of Environmental Assessments. Specifically, 40 CFR section 1506.6 requires agencies to provide public notice of the availability of environmental documents. This notice is part of NOAA's action to comply with this requirement.

Copies of the Proposed Findings Document, Environmental Assessment, and Finding of No Significant Impact

may be obtained upon request from: Joseph P. Flanagan, Coastal Program Division (N/ORM3), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS, NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910, tel. (301) 713-3121, x201.

DATES: Individuals or organizations wishing to submit comments on the Proposed Findings or Environmental Assessment should do so by October 20, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be made to: Joseph A. Uravitch, Coastal Programs Division (N/ORM3), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS, NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910, tel. (301) 713-3155, x195. (Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog 11.419 Coastal Zone Management Program Administration).

Dated: August 1997.

Nancy Foster,

Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Robert H. Wayland, III,

Director, Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds, Environmental Protection Agency.

[FR Doc. 97-23615 Filed 9-4-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 081797A]

Atlantic Striped Bass Fishery; 1996 Survey of Atlantic Striped Bass Fisheries

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of availability of survey.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces the availability and summarizes the results of a survey of the Atlantic coast striped bass fisheries for 1996. The Atlantic Striped Bass Conservation Act (Act), requires NMFS to provide information on the status of the fisheries.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the survey results are available from Anne Lange, NOAA/NMFS/FX2, 8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 425, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Anne Lange, (301) 427-2014.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Act requires the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a comprehensive annual survey of the Atlantic striped bass fisheries. The

following is a summary of the survey for 1996. Management measures that severely restricted the harvest of striped bass by commercial and recreational fisheries were further relaxed in 1996, as the stocks continued to rebuild.

The 1996 commercial harvest of striped bass was 5,400,000 lb (2,449 mt), an increase of 42 percent above the landings of 3,811,000 lb (1,729 mt) in 1995. The Chesapeake Bay area (Maryland, Virginia, and the Potomac River) accounted for 65 percent of the 1996 commercial landings, while Massachusetts and North Carolina accounted for 13 percent and 8 percent, respectively.

The recreational catch in 1996 was an estimated 14 million striped bass, of which 1.3 million were harvested; the remaining 12.7 million were released. The estimated weight of the recreational harvest was 14.7 million lb (6,668 mt).

Juvenile production varied among the producer areas, in 1996. In New York, the 1996 was lower than in 1995 but near the long term average. In Maryland and Virginia, the 1996 indices were the highest of their respective time-series, while the Delaware Bay index was the third highest on record. The North Carolina juvenile index increased in 1996, from a relative low in 1995, to near record levels, as seen in 1993 and 1994.

Information from sampling the population of striped bass shows an increased relative abundance from recent year classes. Copies of the survey are available upon request (see ADDRESSES).

Dated: August 28, 1997.

David L. Evans,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 97-23650 Filed 9-4-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 082997B]

North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of committee meeting.

SUMMARY: The Pacific Northwest Crab Industry Advisory Committee will meet in Seattle, WA.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 1, 1997, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Leif Erikson Lodge Hall, 2245 NW 57th Street, Seattle, WA.

Council address: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W. 4th Ave., Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501-2252.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Garry Loncon, Committee Chairman; telephone: 206-283-6605.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The agenda for the meeting will include the following subjects:

1. Annual report to industry by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G).
2. Update on the ADF&G-managed crab observer program.
3. Review results of the St. Matthew and Pribilof king crab fisheries.
4. Review actions of the Alaska Board of Fisheries regarding management of the Bristol Bay red king crab fishery.
5. Discussion of the crab license limitation program.
6. Discussion of any other crab issues of importance to the committee.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Committee for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal Committee action during this meeting. Committee action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda listed in this notice.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Helen Allen, 907-271-2809, at least 5 working days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: August 29, 1997.

Gary C. Matlock,

Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 97-23563 Filed 9-4-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 082997A]

Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: Staff of the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a meeting to discuss eligibility criteria for communities under a Western Pacific Community Development Program.

DATES: The meeting will be held on September 22, 1997, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Council office, 1164 Bishop St., Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI; telephone: 808-522-8220.

Council address: Western Pacific Fishery Management Council, 1164 Bishop St., Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director; telephone: 808-522-8220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Council staff will hold a meeting to discuss eligibility criteria for communities seeking to participate in a Western Pacific Community Development Program. The authority to establish a Community Development Program was provided by the 1996 Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The intent of the program is to increase the benefits that the indigenous peoples of Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands receive from fisheries within the jurisdiction of the Council.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Kitty M. Simonds, 808-522-8220 (voice) or 808-522-8226 (fax), at least 5 days prior to meeting date.

Dated: August 29, 1997.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 97-23562 Filed 9-4-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Announcement of Public Comment Period on the Elimination of the Paper Visa Requirement With the Governments of Korea and Singapore

August 29, 1997.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).